

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A heavy gauge seamless steel tube of high mechanical resistance, good degree of toughness, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and the heat affected zone (HAZ) and good corrosion resistance, characterized by the material of which it is manufactured being made up of basically of Fe and the following chemical composition expressed in % by weight of additional elements:

C	0.06 to 0.13
Mn	1.00 to 1.30
Si	0.35 Max.
P	0.015 Max.
S	0.003 Max.
Mo	0.1 to 0.2
Cr	0.10 to 0.30
V	0.050 to 0.10
Nb	0.020 to 0.035
Ni	0.30 to 0.45
Al	0.015 to 0.040
Ti	0.020 Max.
N	0.010 Max.
Cu	0.2 Max.

and also the chemical composition with the following relation among the alloying elements:

$$0.5 < (\text{Mo} + \text{Cr} + \text{Ni}) < 1$$
$$(\text{Mo} + \text{Cr} + \text{V})/5 + (\text{Ni} + \text{Cu})/15 \leq 0.14;$$

wherein the seamless steel tube has a microstructure formed by re-heating to austenitic temperature followed by water quenching and a tempering treatment that results in a microstructure having austenite grains with an average size up to 20 microns.

2. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tube with high mechanical resistance, good hardness, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion

resistance as in claim 1, also characterized by a Titanium content of no more than 0.002% by weight.

3. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tube with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 1, also characterized by the presence of a resistance to cracking measured by the CTOD test at a temperature of $-40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 0.8\text{ mm}$ in the metal base and a CTOD test at a temperature of $0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 0.5\text{ mm}$ in the heat affected zone.

4. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 1, characterized by the resistance to corrosion measured by the HIC test in accordance with norm NACE TM0284 with solution A being 1.5% max. for CTR and 5.0% max. for CLR.

5. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 1, characterized by having heavy gauge walls $\geq 30\text{ mm}$.

6. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 5, characterized by having heavy gauge walls $\geq 40\text{ mm}$.

7. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in any of the previous claims 1 through 6, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$$YS_{\text{Room}} \geq 65\text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65\text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{\text{Room}} \geq 77\text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77\text{ Ksi}$$

The energy absorbed was evaluated at a temperature of up to $-10^{\circ}\text{C} \geq \text{Joules}$

$$\text{Hardness} \leq 240\text{ HV10 maximum.}$$

8. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in claim 1, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$$YS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS/UTS \leq 0.89$$

$$\text{Elongation} \geq 20\%$$

Energy absorbed evaluated at a temperature of up to -20°C > 380 Joules

$$\text{Shear Area at } -10^{\circ}\text{C} = 100\%$$

$$\text{Hardness} \leq 220 \text{ HV10.}$$

9. (Withdrawn) A process for manufacturing the seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good toughness, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance made up of steps: 1. manufacturing the steel; 2. obtaining the solid cylindrical piece; 3. perforating said piece; 4. laminating said steel piece; 5. Subjecting the laminated tubing to heat treatment, characterized said process by the addition of certain amounts of elements during the manufacturing and the elimination of other elements so as to produce a final composition in % by weight that contains, besides iron and inevitable impurities, the following:

C	0.06 to 0.13
Mn	1.00 to 1.30
Si	0.35 Max.
P	0.015 Max.
S	0.003 Max.
Mo	0.1 to 0.2
Cr	0.10 to 0.30
V	0.050 to 0.10
Nb	0.020 to 0.035

Ni	0.30 to 0.45
Al	0.015 to 0.040
Ti	0.020 Max.
N	0.010 Max.
Cu	0.2 Max.

and also the chemical composition complying with the relationship among the alloying elements:

$$0.5 \leq (\text{Mo} + \text{Cr} + \text{Ni}) < 1$$
$$(\text{Mo} + \text{Cr} + \text{V})/5 + (\text{Ni} + \text{Cu})/15 \leq 0.14.$$

10. (Withdrawn) A process for manufacturing seamless steel tubing as claimed in claim 9 characterized by said heat treatment consisting of austenitizing to a temperature of between 900°C and 930°C, followed by interior-exterior hardening in water and then heat treatment for tempering at a temperature of between 630°C and 690°C as defined by the following equation:

$$T_{\text{temp}} (^{\circ}\text{C}) = [- 273 + 1000 / (1.17 - 0.2 \text{ C} - 0.3 \text{ Mo} - 0.4 \text{ V})] + / - 5.$$

11. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tube with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 2, also characterized by the presence of a resistance to cracking measured by the CTOD test at a temperature of $-40^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 0.8 \text{ mm}$ in the metal base and a CTOD test at a temperature of $0^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 0.5 \text{ mm}$ in the heat affected zone.

12. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 2, characterized by the resistance to corrosion measured by the HIC test in accordance with norm NACE TM0284 with solution A being 1.5% max. for CTR and 5.0% max. for CLR.

13. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 3, characterized by the resistance to corrosion measured by the HIC test in accordance with norm NACE TM0284 with solution A being 1.5% max. for CTR and 5.0% max. for CLR.

14. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 2, characterized by having heavy gauge walls ≥ 30 mm.

15. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 3, characterized by having heavy gauge walls ≥ 30 mm.

16. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ, and good corrosion resistance as in claim 4, characterized by having heavy gauge walls ≥ 30 mm.

17. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in claim 2, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$$YS_{\text{Room}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{\text{Room}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS/UTS \leq 0.89$$

$$\text{Elongation} \geq 20\%$$

Energy absorbed evaluated at a temperature of up to $-20^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 380$ Joules

$$\text{Shear Area at } -10^{\circ}\text{C} = 100\%$$

$$\text{Hardness} \leq 220 \text{ HV10.}$$

18. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in claim 3, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$$YS_{\text{Room}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{\text{Room}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77 \text{ Ksi}$$

$$YS/UTS \leq 0.89$$

Elongation $\geq 20\%$

Energy absorbed evaluated at a temperature of up to $-20^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 380$ Joules

Shear Area at $-10^{\circ}\text{C} = 100\%$

Hardness ≤ 220 HV10.

19. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in claim 4, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$YS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 65$ Ksi

$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65$ Ksi

$UTS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 77$ Ksi

$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77$ Ksi

$YS/UTS \leq 0.89$

Elongation $\geq 20\%$

Energy absorbed evaluated at a temperature of up to $-20^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 380$ Joules

Shear Area at $-10^{\circ}\text{C} = 100\%$

Hardness ≤ 220 HV10.

20. (Previously presented) The seamless steel tubing with high mechanical resistance, good hardening, good resistance to cracking in the metal base and in the HAZ and good corrosion resistance as in claim 4, characterized by possessing the following properties:

$YS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 65$ Ksi

$YS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 65$ Ksi

$UTS_{\text{Troom}} \geq 77$ Ksi

$UTS_{130^{\circ}\text{C}} \geq 77$ Ksi

$YS/UTS \leq 0.89$

Elongation $\geq 20\%$

Energy absorbed evaluated at a temperature of up to $-20^{\circ}\text{C} \geq 380$ Joules

Shear Area at $-10^{\circ}\text{C} = 100\%$

Hardness ≤ 220 HV10.

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21. (Currently Amended) The seamless steel tube of claim 1, wherein the seamless steel tube possesses a lower bainite microstructure, polygonal ferrite below 30% with small regions of martensite high in C with retained austenite dispersed in the matrix.